

**SIX DOLLARS
PER QUARTER**

100

him to be more than fourteen; many of us, I am sure, have met boys of thirteen with far more numerous than he evidently possesses. I "Mail Boat" an "Fifty Dollars" makes vain efforts at guessing my identity and thus betrays another example of his own untrained and bucolic simplicity; he should be perfectly unconcerned, as I am myself in regard to him, but I really would like to know, I don't mind telling and giving also the name of my ship—I have said where she has come from already. I think, however, it might be more convenient if he stuck to his subject—if he knows how, and went to work now you have opened your column to him—with the real intention of doing something for the benefit of his country. So far, he impresses my mind as being little better than an imposter with a gift for a certain very common kind of scribbling well known to all readers of country newspapers and in which some sucking Junius is permitted to work himself up to a desirable fighting weight—or to that "missionary" who is sometimes met with in the bushy wastes of Australia and who on being put right while pursuing his erratic course of reasoning, flies off from his subject and goes in vigorously for the kind of argument which is more commonly addressed to the country to bullheads—and to such an extent as to have completely forgotten what he "started out on." Now, Sir, your correspondent who has such a sure would be the worst champion sailors, as officers, could have—reminds me of such an individual. My "boy" Luk Ong, who has plodded through his letter, informs me that "Fifty Dollars" not content with hurling at me a full column of rapid invectives wants to have me driven from "the face of the earth," after which one would have thought, he might have gone back to his subject, but no; anything but that; he really has no subject, anyhow, he is so anxious to let his readers know that he is not in a Saigon "tramp" that if he has a subject, he has forgotten all about it. It is about himself that he wants and likes best to talk; he gives us his "age," what he knows about P. and O. "boats," or as he elegantly calls them, "P. and O. boats," then he goes into a tirade about a naval chaplain, flies off to rant some more about "Mail Boat," enters into a learned dissertation on the positions of officers' cabins in regard to latrines, then it is to the battered subject of promotion—always, of course, in the P. and O., about the gentlemen of the P. and O., who they must be, and the clear of wordy and long-winded "Fifty Dollars" gives us his ideas about the "Fifty Dollars" of the ordinary type, of course, then flies from the subject and finds himself in the happy land of Dan where no less an angel than Alfred Holt is met with, volunteers information about his officers—all known years and years ago, by those who are the least interested, discusses—always learnedly—social positions of ship's officers and in fact everything and anything instead of going on with his work of raising the pay of the sea-faring community. He is like a talking machine, wound up to go against time, but without eyes to guide him, clear of wordy obstacles or brains capable of drawing his own conclusions from the facts he has first precious epistle in your pages I doubt his ability to handle the subject with common sense, and the sequel shows that, so far, I am right. After four months study the Oracle has opened his 12th instant—a stale collection of rigmorale concrete formed of a few very old facts and scraps of conversation which cabin stewards who wait at table frequently dispense to an appreciative audience in the "fore-cabin." I can, Sir, hardly take as strong an interest in this new Daniel come Judgement as he certainly takes in my humble self. I would not propose his title of "Fifty Dollars" as "from the face of the earth" any more than I should wish to exterminate a calf, but I believe if he would only exchange his present position for that of the lordly proprietor of a "pub" somewhere about the locality of Leather Lane, Holborn, he would be a much happier man than as he is at present. Before closing this letter I thought to read Mr. "Fifty Dollars" a little lecture on the bearings of free trade, as they affect the pay of the men he started away from home to assist, but as I hear he is already preparing a "scheme," I respectfully bow to his precedence with the hope only that it will not take him another four months to grind it out.

I am Sir,
Your faithfully,
MAIL BOAT.

Hongkong, September 14th, 1888.

P.S.—Permit me to express a hope that the health of "Fifty Dollars" is better than what I imagine it to have been when he last did me the honour to no ice my humble existence. I can pity any person who is eaten up with the terrible disease which makes them want to kill everybody who disagrees with them, even in a letter. I know a man once who was in the same condition—he was always either "laughing or crying" at extremes—between himself, Mr. Editor, he was not "all there"—about fourpence short.

NEWS BY THE AUSTRALIAN MAIL.

The E. and A. Co.'s steamship *Guthrie*, Capt. Hugh Craig, arrived from Sydney and ports of call this afternoon. We take the annexed telegrams from our Australian exchanges:—

LONDON, August 15th.
Sir William Armstrong and Son have contracted for the construction of three cruisers to form portion of the Australian Auxiliary fleet. Messrs. Hawthorn and Leslie will supply the machinery for the vessels. Mr. Thomson, of Clydebank, has also obtained a contract for building two of the cruisers.

Mr. Owen Jones, one of the directors of the Pacific Cable Company, and Mr. Sandford Fleming, C.M.G., who was formerly Engineer-in-Chief of the Canadian Pacific Railway, have had an interview with Sir John A. Macdonald, Premier of Canada, upon the subject of the proposed Pacific cable.

The interview is regarded as of a satisfactory character.
August 16th.
The Times declares that the threatened action by Mr. John O'Connor, M.P. for Tipperary, and Mr. John Redmond, M.P. for Wexford, are intended to distract attention from the larger issues. The Times will defend the action, but will prove the charges before the Judicial Commission.

A duel has been fought in France between two French ladies. The affair rose out of a feeling of jealousy between the duellists. Pistols were used, and both ladies were seriously wounded.

The Australian Eleven commenced a match at Nottingham to-day against the Nottinghamshire Eleven. The home team went in first, and at the adjournment for lunch they had scored 11 runs with two wickets down. At the close of the day's play six wickets had fallen for a total of 250. Gunn played a splendid innings for 91, and Barnes scored 50.

The wicket was in splendid condition.
August 17th.
The match was resumed to-day. The Nottingham team continued to bat with great confidence, and runs came fast. The innings closed for a total of 441.

After a short interval, the Australian went to the wickets, and have lost one wicket for four runs.

News has reached London to the effect that a terrible disaster has occurred between two passenger steamers off the coast of Nova Scotia, resulting in great loss of life.

A collision took place off Sable Island between the Danish steamers *Thingvald* and *Gisler*, running between Copenhagen and New York. The latter vessel sank in a few minutes, and 72 passengers and 33 of the crew were drowned.

The remainder of those on board the *Gisler*, together with 450 passengers on board the *Thingvald*, were rescued by the steamer *Wieland*, and all were safely landed at New York.

The steamer *Thingvald* was seriously damaged in the collision with the *Gisler*, but she was enabled to keep afloat, and according to the latest accounts, was endeavouring to reach Halifax.

An eviction attended by circumstances of an exciting character has been carried out at New Ross, in Ireland. Preparations had been made by the occupants of the house to offer a desperate resistance to the evicting officers and the police.

Earthworks were thrown up in the vicinity, and trenches were dug round the tenement.

A great mob of sympathisers with the tenants assembled, and actively endeavoured to prevent the officers from carrying out the eviction. The police charged the mob with fixed bayonets, but they were repeatedly repulsed. Eventually the house took fire, and the defenders then came out.

The police succeeded in effecting 12 arrests. The majorities obtained by General Boulanger in the elections for the Departments of the Somme, Nord, and Charente aggregate 100,000 votes.

Lord Knutsford, Secretary of State for the Colonies, has informed the Agents-General that he sees no reason for disturbing the decision of the Sydney conference in reference to the Chinese question.

A return match, Australians v. Gloucestershire, was commenced to-day at Cheltenham. Up to lunch-time the Australians, who went first to the wickets, had scored 77 runs for seven wickets, of which McDermott made 38.

The remaining wickets fell for a total of 118. Jarvis 29. Rain stopped the play.

Gloucestershire then went in, and at lunch-time had made 126, with the loss of one wicket. W. G. Grace, not out, 66.

Vice-Admiral J. K. E. Baird declares that the weakness of the squadron recently sent out to manœuvre would compel it to confine operations, in case of war, to the defence of the Thames.

Two Russian torpedo boats have been despatched to Vladivostok.

Captain Hume, of the Black Watch, has been appointed inspector of the New Zealand Militia. Mr. F. W. Reilly has been nominated as President of the Orange Free State in succession to the late Sir John H. Brand.

Herr von Boetticher, the Prussian Secretary of State and Minister for the Interior, has been appointed Vice-President of the Prussian Council of Ministers, in succession to Herr von Puttkamer, who resigned prior to the death of the Emperor Frederick, owing to the sympathy shown by the Emperor towards the Liberals.

A tentative agreement has been arrived at between the shipping ring and the Australian Mutual Shipping Company, by which the rates of freight are to be assimilated. A committee of the shippers and brokers is to be organised to regulate the freight.

The attempt of Turkey to enlist the sympathy of Germany against the Italian occupation of Massowah has been sharply rebuffed by Prince Bismarck.

It is reported that Malletta, ex-King of Samoa, who was deported from Apia by the German authorities about ten months ago, has been removed to Germany.

The ceremony of the reply of Signor Crispi, the Italian Premier, to M. Goblet's circular is giving rise to a feeling of irritation in France, and arouses a suspicion that Germany is fomenting a quarrel between France and Italy.

The feeling on the Continent is now one of great anxiety. It is reported that the Admiralty authorities have decided upon immediately increasing the number of ironclads and fast cruisers in the navy.

The latest advices from Zululand report that the native levies which were raised to suppress the rising fomented by Dinizulu have been disbanded.

The return match Australians v. Gloucestershire was resumed to-day at Cheltenham. Gloucestershire concluded their innings for a total of 209 runs. W. G. Grace played a fine innings for 92.

Turner took four wickets for 82, and Ferris five for 93.

The Australians in their second innings have lost three wickets for 50, Bannerman having scored 27 not out.

August 22nd.
The second innings of the Australians closed for a total of 151. Bannerman made 47, and Edwards 30.

LATER.
Gloucestershire won the match by eight wickets.

The following are the scores:—
AUSTRALIA
First innings 118
Second ditto 151

Total 269
GLOUCESTERSHIRE
First innings 209
Second ditto (with two wickets down) 61

Total 270
It is reported that Dinizulu had yielded to General Smyth, the British commander.

It is reported that Ishak Khan has risen in rebellion against the American Abdurhaman. The Senate of the United States has rejected the Fisheries Treaty entered into with Canada.

Twenty-seven Democrats supported the treaty, and 30 Republicans opposed.

Senator Morgan declared that if England had acted in the same way as America had done in connection with the Fisheries Treaty the United States would have regarded it as a declaration of war.

Dr. Barry, the Prime of Australia, has denied the report that he has resigned the See of Sydney. Dr. Stubbs, who has been translated to the Bishopric of Oxford, will remain the See of Chester until November next. His successor has not yet been appointed.

August 23rd.
Mr. William Pritchard Morgan, who discovered rich auriferous deposits near Dolgelly, in North Wales, has announced his intention to contest the election for the seat in the House of Commons for Merthyr Tydvil, rendered vacant by the death of Mr. Henry Richard.

Mr. Pritchard will come forward in the Unionist interest.

The Hon. Thomas F. Bayard, Secretary of State in the United States, is not in any way affected at the rejection of the Fisheries Treaty by the Senate. He will revert to the treaty of 1818 as a modified *modus vivendi*.

The rejection of the treaty has caused little or no excitement either in America or Canada, as it is believed that the existing relations in regard to the matter will be continued.

The Times urges Canada to maintain the *modus vivendi*, and says that the rejection of the treaty is merely an election question.

WASHINGTON, August 23rd.

President Cleveland in a message to Congress states that the action of the Senate in refusing to ratify the Fisheries Treaty, compels him to pursue a policy of vigorous relations calculated to protect the interests of the United States.

He advises that the free transit of bonded goods for Canada over United States territory be suspended, and that tolls be levied on Canadian vessels using American lakes, rivers, and canals.

He says it is evident that the intended diplomatic efforts to prevent vexatious interference with the commerce between America and Canada will not succeed at present, and that he will not hesitate to enforce retaliatory measures according to the powers already conferred.

The Government had only half performed its duty by merely protecting citizens at home, while it allowed the unfair and overreaching dispositions of other nations. He hopes the policy he indicates will be enforced calmly and firmly.

August 24th.
A Bill has been brought into the House of Representatives providing for the defence of American vessels engaged in the fisheries, in accordance with President Cleveland's message.

LONDON, August 24th.
The German press considers Signor Crispi, (the Italian Premier) note to M. Goblet, Premier, of France, resembles a memorandum on the eve of war.

Crispi on arrival at Carlsbad, was warmly welcomed by Bismarck. The Times says Crispi's visit to Bismarck is likely to inflame excitement and increase alarm on the Continent, owing to the strained relations at present existing between France and Italy.

August 25th.
It is understood that France alone objects to sign the treaty for the abolition of sugar bounties. The King of Bavaria is in a critical state.

Barry Sullivan, the tragedian, is dangerously ill.

At a banquet in Paris on Thursday night to celebrate the birthday of the Comte de Paris, M. Demolins and M. Pasquid both denounced the Republic declaring that the re-establishment of a Monarchy would be the salvation of France. The sentiments were enthusiastically received.

Bismarck has resigned as Minister of Commerce.

The American House of Representatives passed the Chinese Restriction Bill unanimously. It is reported that Italy is organising a new Abyssinian expedition.

The Eastern Extension Telegraph Co. will land their cable at Rock Bay, West Australia.

Ships are very scarce, and freights to Australia continue firm, with an upward tendency. Two ships were exploded before the Registrar's office in Paris, without injuring anybody.

The National League is suppressed at Longford and Castlebar through the operations of the Crimes Act.

The harvest on the Continent, with the exception of Russia, is damaged owing to the bad weather. The crops are generally deficient and of poor quality.

Dr. McDonald is organising a deputation of crofters to visit New Zealand and Australia to raise funds.

In the match Australians v. South of England, the latter scored 108 in their first innings, and 81 in their second.

An All-England team play against the Australians on the 30th at Manchester. The former team will consist of Grace, Walker, Read, Abel, Lohman, Barnes, Briggs, Gunn, Pilling, Sugg, Uly, it and Peel.

BOMBAY, August 25th.
The official mission to Calcutta leaves in October. Simmonds, an aeronaut, made a balloon ascent at the Irish Exhibition, and was killed in descending.

King Malletta has arrived at Hamburg. The Italian fleet is assembling at Aosta, but it is explained the movements are only in connection with cruising arrangements.

The German Baltic squadron is actively engaged in preparing for sea.

It is reported that the Sultan of Morocco has wreaked a bloody vengeance upon Prince Muley's murderers. The Sultan pursued the insurgents until they surrounded and besieged him. The safety of foreigners is endangered.

In the match Australians v. Past and Present of the Universities of Oxford and Cambridge, the colonials have just three wickets for 123. Macdonald scored 69. A heavy fall of rain stopped the match.

BRISBANE, August 28th.
The English footballers beat the Queensland team on Saturday at Bowen Park by seven points to nil.

LONDON, August 28th.
The French squadron, which it was stated, was to undertake a series of manoeuvres, was unexpectedly dispersed on Monday. It has been suggested that this was done to pacify Italy.

The meeting of Count Kalnoky and Signor Crispi at Eger, in Bohemia, was of the most cordial character. It is believed the result of the conversation will be a triple alliance in offensive and defensive union.

The excitement in France is increasing. President Cleveland took the Dominion Ministers entirely by surprise.

The Canadian press resent the Coercion message which is extremely popular in America, where it is considered that the President "dished" the Republicans. Canadian ministers consider American retaliation will promote local trade, and the Dominion will be able to protect itself. Halifax and St. John will become great winter ports instead of Boston, Portland, and New York.

INSURRECTION IN ANHUI.
The Peking Gazette of the 17th ulto. has the following:

The high authorities concerned report the quelling of an insurrection in Ho-fai Hsien in Anhui. A great deal is made of the affair by the memorialists, but it does not seem really to have been of a very serious character.

The origin of the trouble appears to have been a family quarrel, in the course of which a certain Colonel Liu Wen-pi collected a number of armed men and attacked some of his own relations, whose houses he plundered and destroyed.

The local officials civil and military, hurried to the spot and endeavoured to induce him quietly to disperse his followers; but he refused to pay any heed to their words. They therefore deemed it necessary to apply to the high authorities for a strong military force. At the same time a telegram arrived from Liu Ming-chuan, the Governor of Formosa, representing that the said Liu Wen-pi was at the head of several hundred men, and was meditating open rebellion.

A similar message was also received from the Viceroy Li Hung-chang. Several bodies of troops belonging to the Anhui and Kiangsu forces were sent in motion without delay.

They arrived at the place, they found that Liu Wen-pi had collected a large number of ruffians, deserters from the army, members of affiliated societies and the like. He had set up flags bearing the word "Rebellion," and was plundering travellers and pillaging houses. The commanders of the troops made one more attempt to induce the insurgents to disperse quietly; but their notices were torn down, and their proposals treated with contempt. They then resolutely that they must have recourse to military measures. Having made a reconnaissance, they discovered that Liu Wen-pi had fortified a camp in the midst

of some paddy fields, which could only be approached along the field banks. Outside it, on the south was a temple, and on the east a village in a thick grove, both of which were also held by him. They took up their position on opposite sides of the fortified camp, with the local train-hands supporting them in the rear. When all was ready a couple of shells were fired over the head of the enemy, aimed high intentionally, in hopes that his men might be frightened and run. The rebels however were not so easily deterred, and the imperial troops were then after their long marches, they were given half-a-day's rest to restore their ardour, and nothing more was done that night.

Next day at dawn vigorous attacks were made on the temple and village above mentioned. The rebels fought to the death; many of the troops were killed and wounded, and the places were only taken after a four hours' struggle, their defenders retreating to the fortified camp. The captured positions were at once occupied by the troops, so that the regular troops might be free to move forward to the attack again.

As the rebels were determined after consultation to try the effect of a bombardment, next day a brisk cannon and mortar fire was maintained from morn till eve, more than forty rounds being discharged. The rebels replied with guns and small-arms, with which they did considerable execution. At length portions of the camp wall were knocked down, and the men inside still standing boldly at their posts. The day was now spent, and apprehension was felt lest the rebels should succeed in escaping during the night.

After succeeded in escaping during the night, the rebels were quiet, and the troops were instructed to take him by surprise. It was up to the edge of the ditch, about to attack a violent on the commenced and the wall. The other troops rushed up, swarmed into the place, capturing it, and taking alive Liu Wen-pi and some forty of his men. Liu Wen-pi confessed that after exterminating his family and taking their wealth, he intended to make an attack on the town of Liu-an, and then openly revolt. To vindicate the majesty of the law and tranquillize the public mind, he was executed on the spot in the presence of the troops. At the same time the officers reported what they had done and requested instructions as to the disposal of the prisoners.

It appeared to the memorialists that the punishment of death ought to be inflicted immediately on some forty in number, who had bound themselves to Liu Wen-pi by unlawful oaths and resisted the troops in open fight. They therefore issued orders to that effect, giving instructions at the same time that all persons who had been forced to join the insurgents against their will, should be punished slightly and allowed to return to their homes. Finally, the memorialists request that rewards may be bestowed on the officers who distinguished themselves most highly in the affair. — *Despatch issued previously.*

"CALL HIM OUT!"
The hearing of a suit, by Colonel H. M. Magrath, Civil Judge, Bangalore, the other day was marked by a very unseemly incident.

There was a suit instituted by Sowcar Megrat Permand against Mr. A. Rudra, Barrister-at-law, and Mr. Patrick Hayes, Mr. Hume Wright, Attorney, with Mr. Rudra, appeared in person as first defendant and as counsel for the second defendant. Mr. Rudra having admitted the claim both on behalf of himself and his co-defendant, asked that the decree be made payable by instalments. Mr. Wright objected, whereupon the following battle, (as recorded by the Bangalore Evening Mail) ensued across the bar table:—

Mr. Rudra:—Mr. Wright objects to the instalment simply because it pays him to do so, the objection is not *bona fide*.

Mr. Wright:—It is *bona fide*; we can prove that Mr. Rudra can pay. What is more, we can prove that Mr. Rudra has been boasting outside the Court that he can get the Court to give him any instalment, from 20 to 25.

Mr. Rudra:—That is a very serious charge, and cannot go unchallenged. I have never made such a boast, and it is an impudent falsehood from beginning to the end. The charge has been made simply to prejudice your mind, your Honor, against me. I deny the charge and give the direct answer.

Mr. Wright:—I have heard the charge upon instructions received.

Mr. Rudra:—The instructions are false, and you ought to know that they are. Whatever Mr. Rudra may say, he does not boast of having favour with Judges. Mr. Rudra may be poor, may be in temporary difficulties, but know, Sir, that he is not a liar.

Mr. Wright:—I appeal to the Court to protect me.

The Court:—You have made a serious charge against Mr. Rudra, and he is entitled to reply. If you are not satisfied, you can call him out and settle it outside the Court.

Mr. Wright:—That would be contempt of Court.

Mr. Rudra:—No—not when the Court suggests it, and I am willing to accept it.

THE RAIN-GAMBLERS OF BOMBAY.
There is one particular mode of speculation which helps to dissipate the *sinist* that holds possession of a large portion of the native population during the monsoon season, and proves besides a remunerative source of employment to members of that astute class of people popularly known as shroffs. It is the *sutta*—a game, rain-speculation. The whole thing turns on the fact of its raining or not in a given period, and as the weather is an incorruptible agent, the speculator has in every case what amounts to a good run for his money. *Sutta* gamblers used in days gone by to congregate in the highways and bye lanes to do business, but as this practice materially interfered with the traffic of the city many a speculator was much against his will, hurried before a magistrate and fined for obstruction.

The *sutta* saloon, the only recognised one, in Bombay, is a small, low, one-story building, close proximity to the Pydhonie Police Station. It is easy of access, and there is no attempt whatever made to hide anything from the police or from anybody else.

On entering the room the first object which strikes the eye is an oblong stall running from end to end, dividing the room into two compartments. This stall, as well as two others which lie against the side of either wall of the shed, is occupied by a number of bookmakers of the shroff kind, who attend to the wants of the gamblers. Their "tickers" bear a close resemblance to those native banks with which the frequenters of Shroff Bazaar are so familiar. There is the usual red deal box ornamented with brass clasps of fanciful design, the primitive inkstand, and sand box, and the inevitable chocolate coloured pillows and matress. There are from fifteen to twenty of these stall holders, who, pay to the owner of the house a certain percentage of their gamings, to whom, by the way, all disputes between the plunger and the shroff are referred. His decision, like the umpire's is final.

The appliances, or rather implements, of gaming are of a very simple description. They consist of two rain gauges of somewhat different construction.

The first, which occupies a similar position in the gambler's heart as does the Derby in that of

a turfite, is nothing more intricate than a long gutter running along the eaves of the shed. At one end there is an aperture to which is affixed a spout of the form of an inverted cone, and through this the water trickles, when the rain comes down in a drizzle. But when it pours the water shoots over the end of the gutter, and it is on this latter event happening that the bets are made. The other instrument is a rudely constructed rain-gauge, planted in the centre of a trough, supported on four pillars, some seven feet high. The *sutta* saloon, or as it has been dubbed by one of the magistrates of the city, "this gambling hell," is packed to repletion from early morning to the fall of night, with all sorts and conditions of men, and when a heavy black cloud, pregnant with rain, hangs overhead hesitating to break or not, the scene in and about the place is interesting to a degree. The anxious upturned faces of the gamblers, some of whom have staked their little all on the cast, the hum of voices in a state of intermittent suspension, and the variegated hues of the costumes in the crowd, form a picture animated and brilliant, which in its own way sheds a suggestive side light upon low life in this great emporium.

Just at the present moment the glory of this institution is at its zenith. Perhaps as much money changes hands here every day as in any one of our banks. Persons are almost daily sent to jail by the magistrates for criminal breach of trust in respect of money entrusted to their keeping by others, all of which had changed hands at the *sutta* stalls. The evil has, of late, become so great, that the detective police have been entrusted in making out a case against the proprietors of the house, and *sutta* speculators, if they are to carry on their game, will soon have to repair to Chimbor, the Monaco of the presidency.

EVERY FACILITY
In connection with Life Assurance Business is afforded by
THE STANDARD LIFE OFFICE,
one of the largest and wealthiest of the Prudent Institutions of the United Kingdom. Forms of application and all information will be promptly afforded on application to any of the Standard Company's Agents, or to
THE BORNEO COMPANY, Ltd.,
Agents, Hongkong.
Hongkong, 29th June, 1888. [569]

NOTICE.
THE MAN ON INSURANCE COMPANY, LIMITED.
CAPITAL SUBSCRIBED.....\$1,000,000
The above Company is prepared to accept MARINE RISKS AT CURRENT RATES ON GOODS, &c. Policies granted to all parts of the world payable at any of its Agencies.
WOO LIN YUEN, Secretary.
HEAD OFFICE, No. 2, QUEEN'S ROAD WEST, Hongkong, 1st February, 1888. [150]

GENERAL NOTICE.
THE ON TAI INSURANCE COMPANY, (LIMITED).
CAPITAL TAELS 500,000. \$333,333-33-33
RESERVE FUND\$240,000-00-00
BOARD OF DIRECTORS.
SING, Esq. LO YUK MOON, Esq.
LOO TSO SHUN, Esq.
MANAGER.—HO AMEL.
MARINE RISKS ON GOODS, &c., taken at CURRENT RATES to all parts of the world.
HEAD OFFICE, 8 & 9, PRAYA WEST, Hongkong, 17th December, 1887. [158]

Auctions.
GOVERNMENT NOTIFICATION,
No. 401.
THE following Particulars of Sale of Crown Land by Public Auction, to be held on the 17th day of September, 1888, at 4 P.M., are published for general information.
By Command, FREDERICK STEWART, Colonial Secretary.
Colonial Secretary's Office, Hongkong, 10th September, 1888. [891]

Particulars of the letting by Public Auction, Sale, to be held on MONDAY, the 17th day of September, 1888, at 4 P.M., by Order of His Excellency the GOVERNOR, of One Lot of CROWN LAND, in the Colony of Hongkong, for a term of 75 Years.

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Commercial.

TO-DAY.
THE SHARE MARKET.

Business has been much quieter to-day, the most important transaction reported being some sales of China and Manilla at 124, at which rate there are further buyers. A few Docks have been placed at 33 1/2 per cent. premium, and shares are still wanted at that price. Steamboats have been done at 220 and 219 for the end of the month, and closed weak, with sellers. China Sugars have changed hands at 180 for January and 190 for February, but there are cash sellers at 186. Luzons have been bought at 72 for December. Other quotations are unchanged.

CLOSING QUOTATIONS.
Hongkong and Shanghai Bank—153 per cent. premium, sellers.
Union Insurance Society of Canton—\$90 per share, sellers.
China Traders' Insurance Company—\$68 per share, sellers.
North China Insurance—Tls. 285 per share, buyers.
Canton Insurance Company, Limited—\$97 per share, buyers.
Yankze Insurance Association—Tls. 87 1/2 per share, buyers.
Chinese Insurance Company—\$175 per share, buyers.
On Tai Insurance Company, Limited—Tls. 150 per share, buyers.
Hongkong Fire Insurance Company—\$342 1/2 per share, sellers.
China Fire Insurance Company—\$76 per share, sellers.
Hongkong and Whampoa Dock Company, 33 1/2 per cent. premium, sales and buyers.
Hongkong, Canton, and Macao Steamboat Co.—\$219 per share, sales and buyers.
China and Manilla Steam Ship Company—121 per share, sales and buyers.
Hongkong Gas Company—\$135 per share, sellers.
Hongkong Hotel Company—\$175 per share, sellers.

Indo-China Steam Navigation Company, Limited—20 per cent. dis., sellers.
Douglas Steamship Company—\$60 per share, sellers.
China Sugar Refining Company, Limited—\$186 per share, sellers.
Luzon Sugar Refining Company, Limited—\$69 per share, sales and sellers.
Hongkong Ice Company—\$73 per share, sellers.
Hongkong and China Bakery Company, Limited—\$80 per share, sellers.
Hongkong Dairy Farm Co., Limited—\$13 per share, sellers.
A. S. Watson & Co., Limited—100 per cent. premium, sellers.
Chinese Imperial Loan of 1884 A—2 per cent. premium.
Chinese Imperial Loan of 1884 B—3 per cent. premium.
Chinese Imperial Loan of 1884 C—7 per cent. premium, buyers.
Chinese Imperial Loan of 1886 E—11 per cent. premium, buyers.

Hongkong Rice Manufacturing Company Limited—\$75 per share, sellers.
Perak Tin Mining and Smelting Company—\$5 per share, sellers.
Pahang and Selangor Tin Mining Company—\$11 per share, sales and sellers.
Hongkong and Kowloon Wharf and Godown Company—64 per cent. premium, buyers.
Tonquin Coal Mining Co.—65 per cent. premium, buyers.
The Hongkong High-Level Tramway Co., Limited—325 per cent. premium, sellers.
The East Borneo Planting Co., Limited—\$42 1/2 per share, sales and buyers.
Cruckshank & Co. Ltd.—\$57 per share, sellers.

EXCHANGE.
ON LONDON.—Bank, T. T. 100/101 1/2
Bank Bills, on demand 100/101 1/2
Bank Bills, at 30 days' sight 100/101 1/2
Bank Bills, at 4 months' sight 100/101 1/2
Credits at 4 months' sight 100/101 1/2
Documentary Bills, at 4 months' sight 100/101 1/2
ON PARIS.—Bank Bills, on demand 3/9 1/2
Credits, at 4 months' sight 3/9 1/2
ON INDIA, T. T. 22 1/2
On Demand 22 1/2
ON SHANGHAI.—Bank, T. T. 72 1/2
Private, 30 days' sight 72 1/2

OPIUM MARKET.—THIS DAY.

NEW MALWA, per picul.....\$550
(Allowance, Tals 32 to 64).
OLD MALWA, per picul.....\$550
(Allowance, Tals 32 to 88).
NEW PATNA, (without choice) per chest \$498 1/2 to \$501 1/2
NEW PATNA, (bottom) per chest.....\$511 1/2
OLD PATNA, (without choice) per chest.....\$505 1/2
NEW BENARES, (without choice) per chest \$498 1/2 to \$499 1/2
NEW BENARES, (bottom) per chest.....\$498 1/2 to \$499 1/2
NEW PERSIAN (best quality) per picul.....\$640
OLD PERSIAN (best quality) per picul.....\$600
OLD PERSIAN (second quality) per picul.....\$550 to \$575

CHINA COAST METEOROLOGICAL REGISTER.

13th September, 1888.—At 4 p.m.

STATION	Barometer	Thermometer	Wind	State of Sky	Direction of Wind	Force of Wind	Direction of Current	Force of Current
Wanchow	30.0	85	SW	Cloudy	SW	10	SW	10
Takao	30.0	85	SW	Cloudy	SW	10	SW	10
Nagasaki	30.0	85	SW	Cloudy	SW	10	SW	10
Shanghai	30.0	85	SW	Cloudy	SW	10	SW	10
Amoy	30.0	85	SW	Cloudy	SW	10	SW	10
Hongkong	30.0	85	SW	Cloudy	SW	10	SW	10
Batavia	30.0	85	SW	Cloudy	SW	10	SW	10
Manila	30.0	85	SW	Cloudy	SW	10	SW	10

14th September, 1888.—At 10 a.m.

STATION	Barometer	Thermometer	Wind	State of Sky	Direction of Wind	Force of Wind	Direction of Current	Force of Current
Wanchow	30.0	85	SW	Cloudy	SW	10	SW	10
Takao	30.0	85	SW	Cloudy	SW	10	SW	10
Nagasaki	30.0	85	SW	Cloudy	SW	10	SW	10
Shanghai	30.0	85	SW	Cloudy	SW	10	SW	10
Amoy	30.0	85	SW	Cloudy	SW	10	SW	10
Hongkong	30.0	85	SW	Cloudy	SW	10	SW	10
Batavia	30.0	85	SW	Cloudy	SW	10	SW	10
Manila	30.0	85	SW	Cloudy	SW	10	SW	10

The barometer is still rising and gradually clearing light. Cloudy, with rain and drizzle from 10 a.m. to 11 a.m. and from 11 a.m. to 12 a.m. The wind is from the south-west, with force of 10 to 12 miles per hour. The sea is very rough, with high rollers. The temperature is 85° at 10 a.m. and 85° at 11 a.m. The humidity is 85 per cent. The direction of the wind is from the south-west. The force of the wind is 10 to 12 miles per hour. The direction of the current is from the south-west. The force of the current is 10 to 12 miles per hour.

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STATION	Barometer	Thermometer	Wind	State of Sky	Direction of Wind	Force of Wind	Direction of Current	Force of Current
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HONGKONG TEMPERATURE.

(From Messrs. Falconer & Co.'s Register).	To-day.
Thermometer—9 a.m.	80.0
Thermometer—11 a.m.	80.0
Thermometer—1 p.m.	81.0
Thermometer—3 p.m.	81.0
Thermometer—5 p.m.	81.0
Thermometer—7 p.m.	81.0
Thermometer—9 p.m.	81.0
Thermometer—Minimum (over night)	79.0

MAILS EXPECTED.

THE ENGLISH MAIL.

The P. & O. S. N. Co.'s steamer *Verona*, with the next English mail, left Singapore for this port on the 11th instant, at 2 p.m., and may be expected here on or about the 16th.

THE AMERICAN MAIL.

The O. & S. S. Co.'s steamer *Arabic*, with mails, left San Francisco on the 21st ult., left Yokohama for this port on the 13th instant, at 6 p.m., and may be expected here on or about the 19th.

THE CANADIAN MAIL.

The Canadian Pacific steamer *Alyssia*, with the next Canadian mail, left Vancouver for Yokohama and this port on the 28th August.

STEAMERS EXPECTED.

The Navigazione Generale Italiana Co.'s steamer *Brigata*, left Singapore on the 8th instant, and is expected here on the 14th.

The China Shippers Mutual S. N. Co.'s steamer *Ningchow*, from Glasgow and Liverpool, left Singapore for this port on the 10th instant, and may be expected here on the 16th.

The 'Glen' line steamer *Glenlyon*, from London, left Singapore on the 11th instant, and is expected here on the 17th.

The Ocean Steamship Co.'s steamer *Menelaus*, from Liverpool, left Singapore on the 12th instant, and is due here on the 18th.

Shipping.

ARRIVALS.

VELUX, German steamer, 636, W. Wulff, 14th Sept.—Whampoa 13th September, General—d. Schellhass & Co.

K'ANG KAP, Chinese corvette, 14th September, from Canton.

FRIGGA, German steamer, 1,400, F. Nagel, 14th Sept.—Hamburg 13th July, Port Said 14th August, Suez 16th, Penang 4th Sept., and Singapore 7th, General—Siemssen & Co.

INGRAM, German steamer, 294, J. R. Moissmann, 14th Sept.—Whampoa 14th Sept., General—Wieler & Co.

ALWINE, German steamer, 400, Samuelson, 14th Sept.—Pahoi 11th Sept., and Hoihow 13th, General—Wieler & Co.

GUTHRIE, British steamer, 700, H. Craig, 14th Sept.—Sydney 26th August, Townsville 26th, Cairns 1st, Cooktown 1st Sept., and Thursday Island 3rd, General—Russell & Co.

CLEARANCES AT THE HARBOUR OFFICE.

VELUX, German steamer, for Chetoo.

Benalder, British steamer, for Singapore, &c.

DEPARTURES.

September 13, *Fushun*, Chinese steamer, for Whampoa.

September 14, *Zambesi*, British steamer, for Saigon.

September 14, *H. G. Johnson*, American bark, for Keelung.

September 14, *Marie*, German steamer, for Halphong.

September 14, *Dekonyon*, British steamer, for Port Darwin, &c.

September 14, *Falkenberg*, German steamer, for Saigon.

September 14, *Velox*, German str., for Chetoo, &c.

September 14, *Benalder*, British steamer, for Singapore, &c.

September 14, *Benarig*, British steamer, for Singapore, &c.

September 14, *Sochow*, British steamer, for Swatow.

PASSENGERS—ARRIVED.

Per *Frigga*, str., from Hamburg, &c.—Messrs. Reis and Bied, and 100 Chinese.

Per *Alwina*, str., from Fakhoi, &c.—Mr. Henslow and 50 Chinese.

Per *Guthrie*, str., from Sydney, &c.—Messrs. Orkney and C. H. Stratton, and 81 Chinese.

Per *Benalder*, str., for Singapore, &c.—660 Chinese.

REPORTS.

The German steamship *Frigga* reports that she left Hamburg on the 31st July; arrived at Port Said on the 14th ultimo; left Suez on the 16th; arrived at Penang on the 4th instant, and left again the same day; arrived at Singapore on the 6th, and left on the 7th; arrived here this morning at 10 a.m. Across the Indian Ocean had strong south-west monsoon with high sea and rain squalls. Up to China had light south-west breeze and moderate sea. On the 11th a typhoon off Padaran, with high confused sea and much rain; from there to port had light winds from south-east to north-east, with easterly swell and light rain squalls.

Post Office.

A MAIL WILL CLOSE

For Straits, Colombo, and Bombay.—Per *Tehran*, to-morrow, the 15th instant, at 11:30 a.m.

For Amoy and Tamsui.—Per *Formosa*, to-morrow, the 15th instant, at 1:30 p.m.

For Shanghai.—Per *Ningpo*, to-morrow, the 15th instant, at 3:30 p.m.

For Swatow, Amoy, & Foochow.—Per *Hailan*, on Sunday, the 16th instant, at 8:30 a.m.

For Bangkok.—Per *Phra Chula Chom Klao*, on Sunday, the 16th instant, at 9:00 a.m.

For Amoy and Manila.—Per *Don Juan*, on Monday, the 17th instant, at 3:30 p.m.

For Kobe.—Per *Tartar*, on Monday, the 17th instant, at 5:00 p.m.

For Straits and Calcutta.—Per *Taiyang*, on Tuesday, the 18th instant, at 2:30 p.m.

For Yokohama and San Francisco.—Per *City of Peking*, on Tuesday, the 18th instant, at 4:30 p.m.

For Straits and Bombay.—Per *Khiva*, on Saturday, the 22nd instant, at 11:30 a.m.

For Europe, &c., India, via Colombo, and Calcutta.—Per *Ancona*, on Wednesday, the 26th instant, at 11:00 a.m.

For Europe, &c.—Per *Braunschweig*, on Wednesday, the 26th instant, at 5:00 p.m.

For Europe, &c., Australia, Madras, Calcutta, and Mauritius.—Per *Adour*, on Thursday, the 27th instant, at 11:00 a.m.

SHIPPING IN HONGKONG.

STEAMERS.

CITY OF PEKING, American steamer, 5,075, W. B. Seabury, 7th Sept.—San Francisco 11th August, and Yokohama 1st Sept., Mails and General.—P. & O. S. N. Co.

FAME, British steamer, 117, A. Stopani.—Hongkong and Whampoa Dock Co.

FORMOSA, British steamer, 674, T. Hall, 13th Sept.—Tainan 9th September, Amoy 11th Sept., Swatow 12th, General.—D. Laprak & Co.

HAITAN, British steamer, 1,822, S. Ashton, 12th Sept.—Fochow 8th Sept., Amoy 10th, and Swatow 11th, General.—D. Laprak & Co.

KHIVA, British steamer, 1,452, Crew, 9th Sept.—Bombay 23rd August, and Singapore 3rd Sept., General.—P. & O. S. N. Co.

MONGKUT, British steamer, 860, Geo. Anderson, 6th Sept.—Bangkok 31st August, Rice and General.—Yuen Fat Hong.

NINGPO, German steamer, 262, Schulz, 13th Sept.—Whampoa 13th Sept., General—Siemssen & Co.

PHRA CHULA CHOM KLAO, British steamer, 1,012, A. Benson, 11th Sept.—Bangkok 4th Sept., Rice.—Yuen Fat Hong.

RED SEA, British steamer, 2,165, Charles Barker, 31st August.—Kobe 23rd August, Rice.—Captain.

TAISANG, British steamer, 1,505, Jackson, 12th Sept.—Calcutta 28th August, Penang 3rd Sept., and Singapore 5th, General—Jardine, Matheson & Co.

TAIWAN, British steamer, 1,459, A. Varden, 5th September.—Shanghai 12th, 4th August, Sydney 14th, Cape Moreton 18th, Sandy Cape 19th, Townsville 21st, Cooktown 22nd, and Thursday Island 25th, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

TARTAR, British steamer, 1,603, D. S. Bailey, 5th Sept.—Manila 2nd Sept., General.—Gibb, Livingston & Co.

TEHERAN, British steamer, 1,670, C. D. Sams, 10th Sept.—Yokohama 1st Sept., Mails and General.—P. & O. S. N. Co.

VISAYAS, Spanish steamer, 406, J. A. J. Alubia, 13th Sept.—Manila 10th Sept, General.—Ban Ho.

WYVERN, British steamer, 1,108, J. Brotherton, 13th Sept.—Bangkok 5th Sept., Rice.—Tung Kee.

SAILING VESSELS.

ADOLPH, German bark, 867, E. Westergaard, 5th August.—Hamburg 19th April, General.—Order.

ANNA BERTHA, German bark, 400, H. Nielsen, 5th Sept.—Keelung 28th August, Coals.—Order.

AUGUSTA, German bark, 475, J. Jensen, 9th Sept.—Newchwang 5th August, Beans.—Ed. Schellhass & Co.

COMET, German ship, 1,083, Kauppner, 17th July.—Cardiff 4th April, Coals.—Order.

C. C. CHAPMAN, American ship, 1,600, A. J. Hichborn, 13th August.—Shanghai 16th July, General—Pustau & Co.

EMMA CROWELL, American bark, 1,086, Pendleton, 10th Sept.—Shanghai 20th August, General.—Russell & Co.

ERLKOENIG, Chinese bark, 457, Oplum Examination hulk, Stonecutters' Island.—Chinese Customs.

ESCOR, American bark, 636, R. G. Waterhouse, 15th July.—Hoihow 3rd July, General.—Chinese.

FRANCIS, American ship, 1,974, Geo. L. Bray, 10th Sept.—San Francisco 18th July, Ballast.—Master.

GOLIAH, Siamese bark, 544, Chas. Simpson, 6th Sept.—Bangkok 24th August, Wood.—Chinese.

HATTIE E. TAPLEY, British bark, 907, J. McCoskery, 5th Sept.—Sandakan 15th August, Timber.—Gibb, Livingston & Co.

HEI-CHENG, British bark, 320, T. C. Thomsen, 4th Sept.—Bangkok 12th August, Rice and General.—Kong Tong Tai.

L'AVENIR, British brigantine, 351, C. Rogers, 10th Sept.—Amoy 7th September, General.—Wieler & Co.

LUCIA, British bark, 640, Wood, 5th August.—Freemantle (W. Australia) 11th July, Sandalwood.—Order.